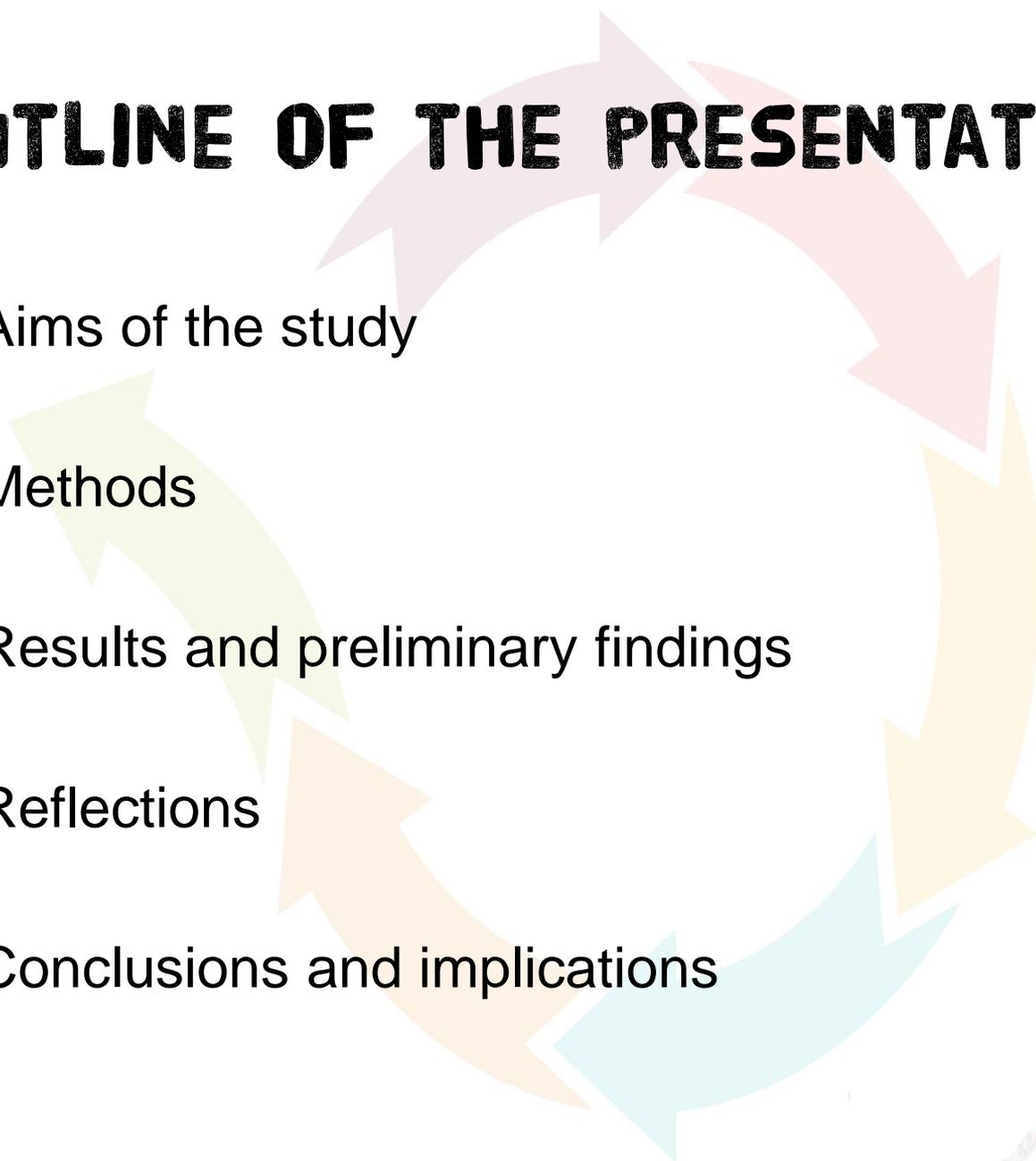


Impact Evaluation of Intensive Reintegration Work with Families whose Children have been Living or Working on the Streets

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OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION



- Aims of the study
- Methods
- Results and preliminary findings
- Reflections
- Conclusions and implications

AIMS OF THE STUDY

To evaluate the impact of sustained relational support* on families whose children have been living or working on the streets

- To establish whether sustained relational support reduces violence in families whose children have been living or working on the streets
- To establish whether sustained relational support to families prevents children returning to the streets

**We define sustained relational support as regular visiting of children and caregivers by the same worker or workers with the specific intention of building positive relationships, modelling secure attachment and supporting children and adults to process trauma.*

METHODS

- Families meeting the criteria for intensive support were asked to consent to be part of the study
- The evaluation took place in two projects: Kivuko and Cheka Sana Tanzania (CST), both in Mwanza
- Baseline measurements were taken with children and caregivers after 3-4 visits, when trust had been established
- Measurement was repeated after approx. one year, and in a few cases, again after two years
- As the two projects use shelters differently, the results were not combined

Methods – Assessment of violence

The measurement tools used were:

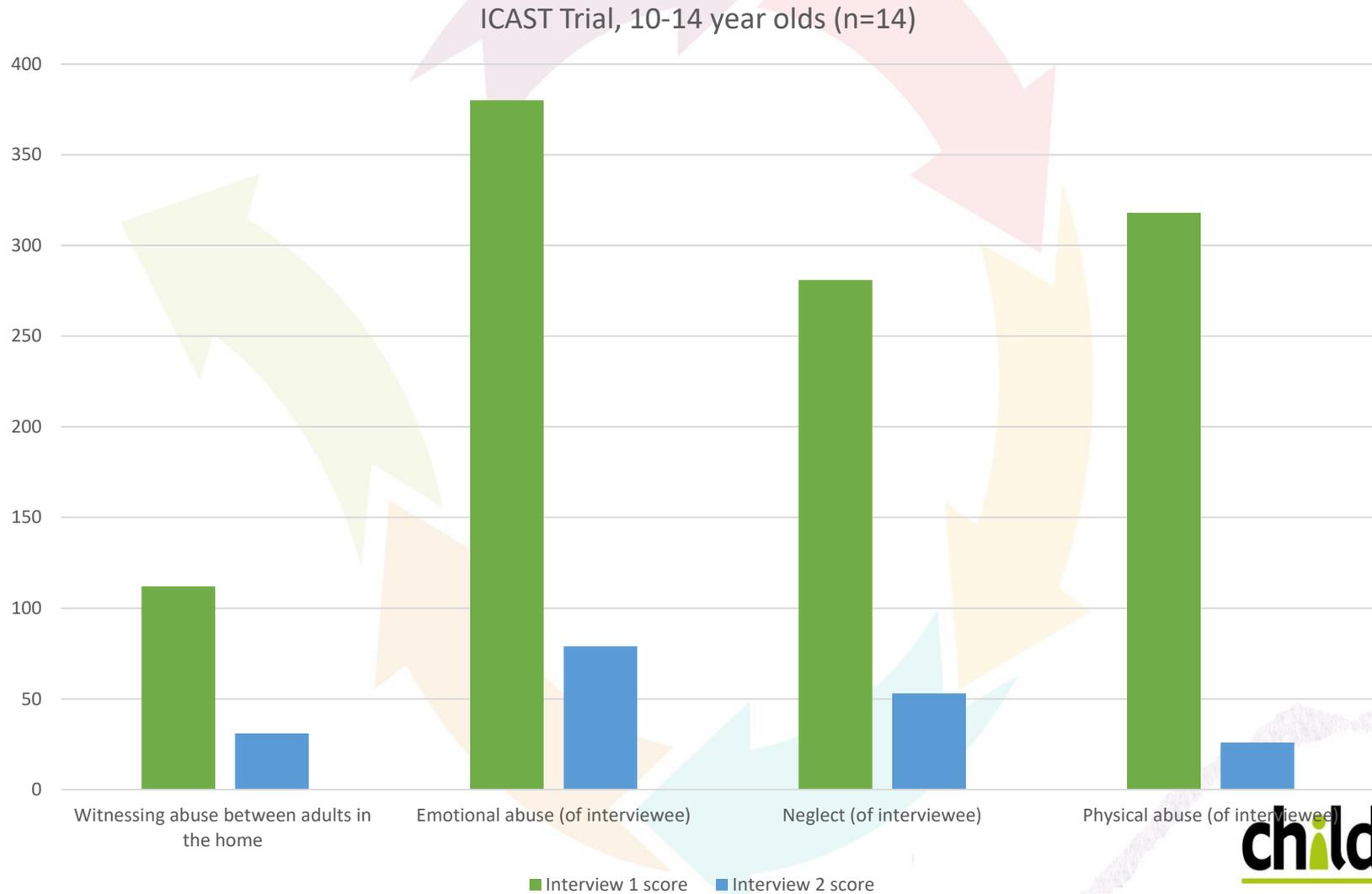
- International Child Abuse Screening Tool (ICAST-Trial) to measure physical, emotional, sexual abuse and neglect of children and the extent to which they sought help
- Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS2 short form) to measure intimate partner violence towards caregivers

The timeframe used was incidents in the previous month

A small sample of caregivers were interviewed about the service and changes within their family

Data was also collected on whether children returned to the streets

ICAST-trial-C: KIVUKO



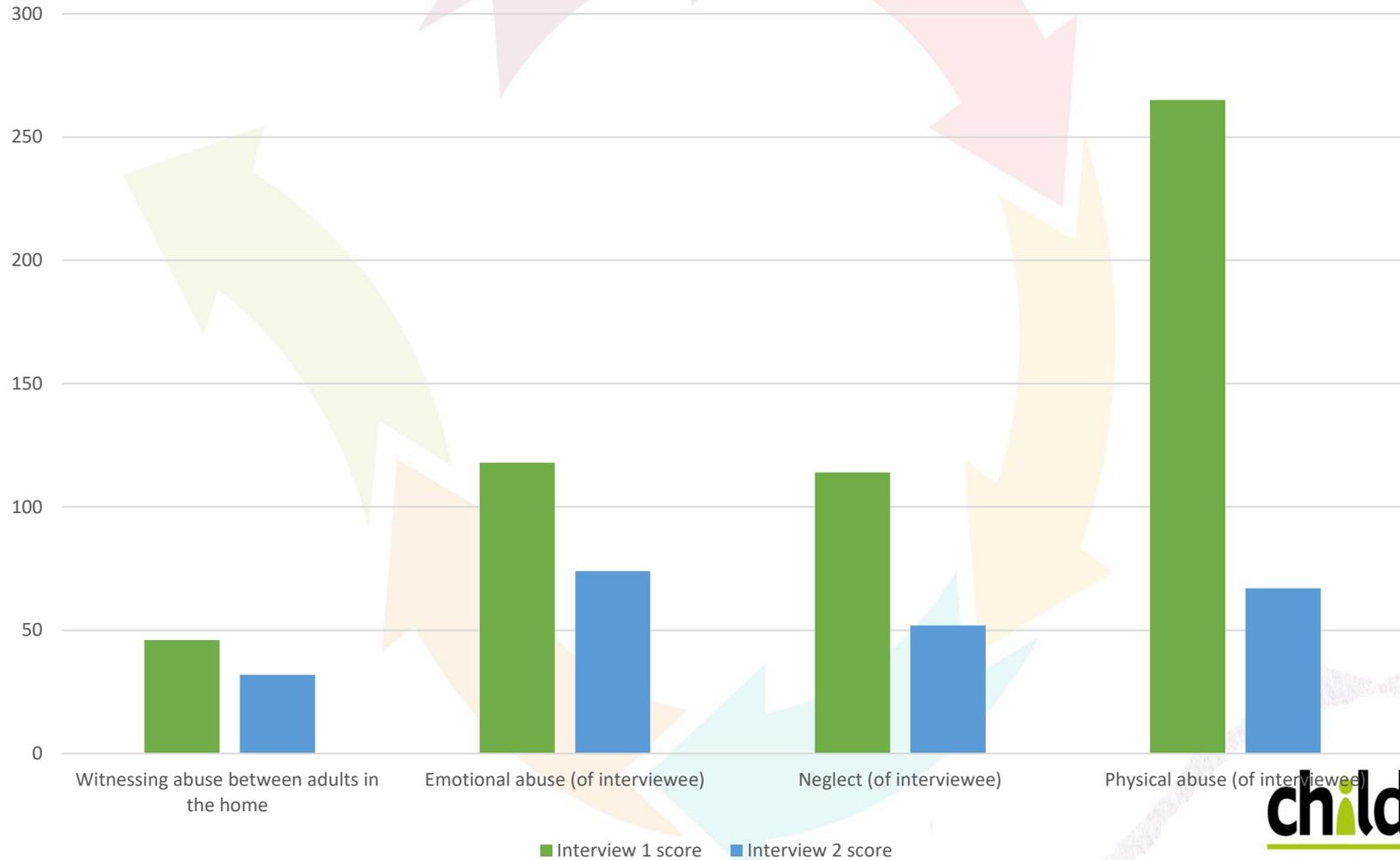
ICAST-trial-C: KIVUKO

- Sexual abuse was measured by recording yes/no answers to a series of questions about incidents in the past month.
- Interviewees were not asked to quantify the number of times, simply to say whether that type of abuse had occurred.
- Eight young people reported at least one type of sexual abuse at interview 1. One young person reported sexual abuse at interview 2. Six were male and two female, and the young person still reporting incidents was male.

| | Young people answering yes in interview 1 | Young people answering yes in interview 2 |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Sexual talk/messages | 2 | 0 |
| Shown sexual video | 5 | 1 |
| Look at or show sexual parts | 2 | 0 |
| Sexual touching | 4 | 0 |
| Made sexual video | 1 | 0 |
| Attempted rape | 3 | 1 |
| Rape | 1 | 0 |

ICAST-Trial-C: Cheka sana TZ

ICAST- Trial 10-14 year olds (n=12)



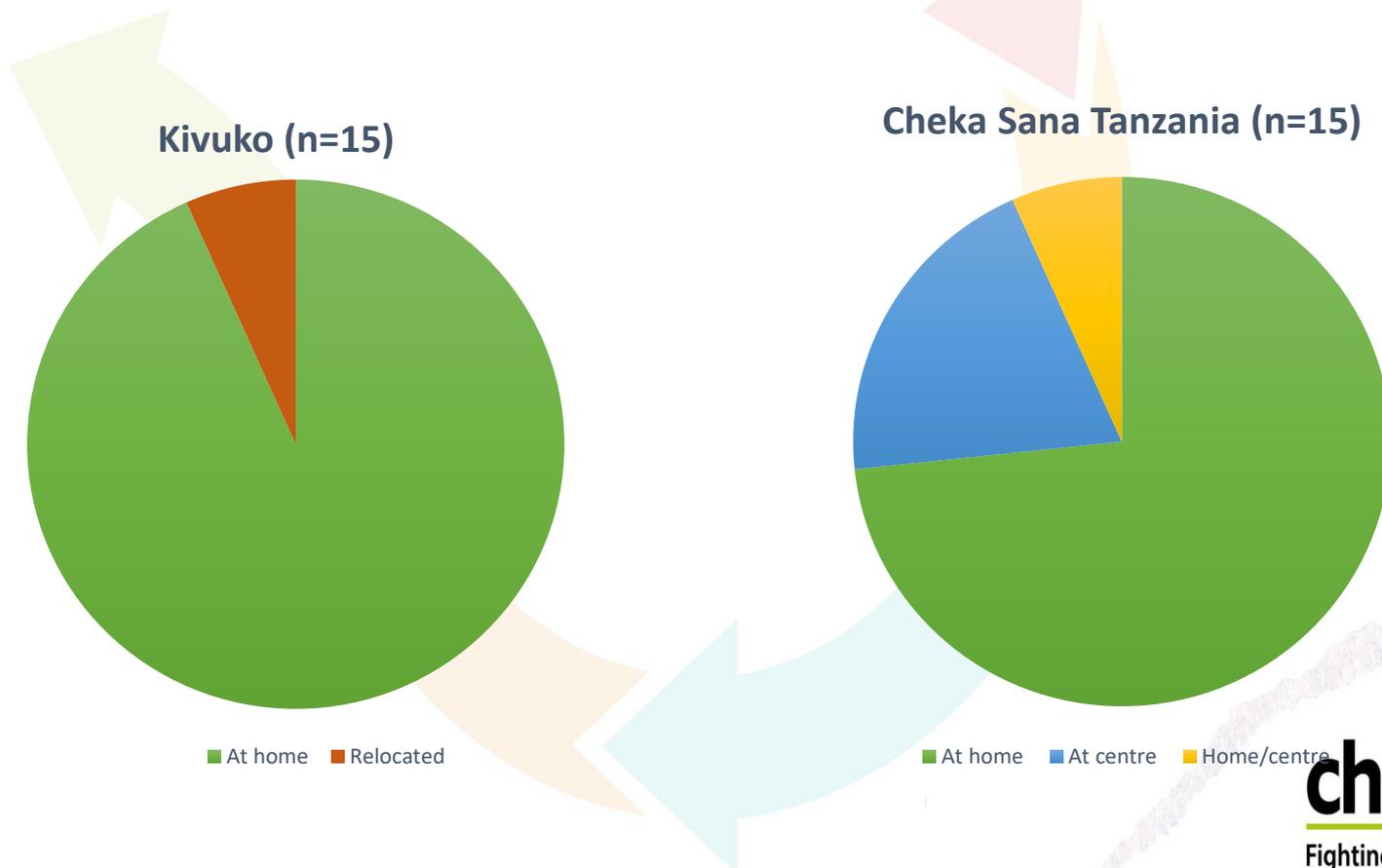
ICAST-Trial-C: Cheka sana TZ

- 8 young people, 4 male and 4 female reported sexual abuse at interview 1.
- The 4 males reported no incidents at interview 2.
- 3 females reported fewer incidents and 1 female reported more.
- Three young people who had not reported any incidents in interview 1 did so in interview 2: all were female.

| | Young people answering yes in interview 1 | Young people answering yes in interview 2 |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Sexual talk/messages | 2 | 5 |
| Shown sexual video | 5 | 1 |
| Look at or show sexual parts | 3 | 1 |
| Sexual touching | 2 | 1 |
| Made sexual video | 1 | 0 |
| Attempted rape | 4 | 3 |
| Rape | 5 | 0 |

Returning to the streets

- In August 2021, none of the 30 children who had stayed in the study were living on the streets



Relational feedback

- *“I didn't know I could discipline my children by talking to them positively and showing them love and care, I thought the only way was to beat them and be strict...They had started going to the street but now they are no longer going to the streets because I listen to them and there is now cooperation in our family.”*

“I was depressed and I thought of drinking poison so I could die, my husband had left me, my child was stubborn and going to the streets but the family workers showed me love, did not give up on me and my daughter, they worked with my child and accepted her regardless of her behaviours.”

[Caregivers in the study]

Summary of findings

- Both projects showed positive results. Levels of physical, emotional and sexual abuse and neglect had all reduced by the second interview
- Children's reports of physical violence reduced the most – by 92% in Kivuko and 75% in CST
- None of the 30 children who stayed in the study were living on the streets in August 2021
 - 26 were living at home
 - Four were staying at a centre either full or part-time after difficulties with their reintegration.

Reflection of Challenges

- Families could only be recruited when children were returning to the same caregiver, which reduced the number of potential participants
- The number of families staying in the study was lower than expected largely due to changes in circumstances (eg relocation or change of caregiver after initial reintegration)
- Relational support was delivered as part of a package of support based on need and therefore its impact could not be assessed in isolation
- Interviews were conducted by workers from the project (though not caseworkers) which could introduce social desirability bias

Conclusions & implications

- There was a significant reduction in levels of abuse within this sample after they had received a package of support that included relational support
- Physical violence reduced the most and abuse between adults in the home reduced the least (as reported by children)
- Sexual abuse reduced overall but increased for a minority in one project. This needs further exploration
- Levels of help-seeking among children were low even when levels of reported abuse were high, and it was unusual to approach teachers and social workers